

After entry of the amendments contained herein, the claims under consideration in this application will read as follows.

NP/1

1. (Twice amended) A peptide consisting of at least one T-cell epitope of Japanese cypress pollen allergen Cha o 1, and optionally a linker sensitive to enzyme cleavage between two epitopes, wherein each of said epitopes consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of Peptide #1-2 (SEQ ID NO:4), Peptide #1-4 (SEQ ID NO:6), Peptide #1-5 (SEQ ID NO:7), Peptide #1-6 (SEQ ID NO:8), Peptide #1-7 (SEQ ID NO:9), Peptide #1-8 (SEQ ID NO:10), Peptide #1-10 (SEQ ID NO:12), Peptide #1-11 (SEQ ID NO:13), Peptide #1-12 (SEQ ID NO:14), Peptide #1-14 (SEQ ID NO:16), Peptide #1-15 (SEQ ID NO:17), Peptide #1-16 (SEQ ID NO:18), Peptide #1-19 (SEQ ID NO:21), Peptide #1-20 (SEQ ID NO:22), Peptide #1-21 (SEQ ID NO:23), Peptide #1-22 (SEQ ID NO: 24), Peptide #1-23 (SEQ ID NO:25), Peptide #1-24 (SEQ ID NO:26), Peptide #1-25 (SEQ ID NO:27), Peptide #1-27 (SEQ ID NO:29), Peptide #1-30 (SEQ ID NO:32), Peptide #1-31 (SEQ ID NO:33), Peptide #1-32 (SEQ ID NO:34), Peptide #1-33 (SEQ ID NO:35), and Peptide #1-34 (SEQ ID NO:36) shown in Fig. 4, or a part of said amino acid sequence.

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5. (Twice amended) A composition consisting essentially of the peptide of claim 1, as an active ingredient, and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

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29. The peptide of claim 1, wherein each of said epitopes consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of: Peptide #1-2, Peptide #1-4, Peptide #1-5, Peptide #1-6, Peptide #1-7, Peptide #1-8, Peptide #1-10, Peptide #1-11, Peptide #1-12, Peptide #1-14, Peptide #1-15, Peptide #1-16, Peptide #1-19, Peptide #1-20, Peptide #1-21, Peptide #1-22, Peptide #1-23, Peptide #1-24, Peptide #1-25, Peptide #1-27, Peptide #1-30, Peptide #1-31, Peptide #1-32, Peptide #1-33 and Peptide #1-34 shown in Fig. 4.

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30. The peptide of claim 1, wherein each of said epitopes consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of Peptide #1-2, Peptide #1-7, Peptide #1-8, Peptide #1-20, Peptide #1-22, Peptide #1-24, Peptide #1-32, Peptide #1-33, and Peptide #1-34 shown in Fig. 4.

31. The peptide of claim 1, wherein each of said epitopes consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of Peptide #1-7, Peptide #1-22, Peptide #1-32, and Peptide #1-33 shown in Fig. 4.

32. The composition of claim 5, wherein said pollinosis is Japanese cypress pollinosis and/or cedar pollinosis.

33. A composition consisting essentially of the peptide of claim 29 as an active ingredient, and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

34. A composition consisting essentially of the peptide of claim 30 as an active ingredient, and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

35. A composition consisting essentially of the peptide of claim 31 as an active ingredient, and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

36. An analog peptide consisting of a sequence identical to that of a wild-type peptide of claim 1, except for substitutions in one or more amino acid residues that mediate an interaction with a T cell receptor or that mediate an interaction with a major histocompatibility complex (MHC) class II molecule, wherein the analog peptide simulates a T cell that is responsive to the wild-type peptide.

37. The analog peptide of claim 36, wherein the analog peptide stimulates the T cell to produce a greater amount of interferon- γ than stimulated by the wild-type peptide.

38. The peptide of claim 1, wherein said linker is Arg-Arg or Lys-Lys.

~~39. A peptide consisting of at least two T-cell epitopes of Japanese cypress pollen allergen Cha o 1 and a linker sensitive to enzyme cleavage between two T-cell epitopes, wherein at least one of said epitopes consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of Peptide #1-2 (SEQ ID NO:4), Peptide #1-4 (SEQ ID NO:6), Peptide #1-5 (SEQ ID NO:7), Peptide #1-6 (SEQ ID NO:8), Peptide #1-7 (SEQ ID NO:9), Peptide #1-8 (SEQ ID NO:10), Peptide #1-10 (SEQ ID NO:12), Peptide #1-11 (SEQ ID NO:13), Peptide #1-12 (SEQ ID NO:14), Peptide #1-14 (SEQ ID NO:16), Peptide #1-15 (SEQ ID NO:17), Peptide #1-16 (SEQ ID NO:18), Peptide #1-19 (SEQ ID NO:21), Peptide #1-20 (SEQ ID NO:22), Peptide #1-21 (SEQ ID NO:23), Peptide #1-22 (SEQ ID NO:24), Peptide #1-23 (SEQ ID NO:25), Peptide #1-24 (SEQ ID NO:26), Peptide #1-25 (SEQ ID NO:27), Peptide #1-26 (SEQ ID NO:28), Peptide #1-27 (SEQ ID NO:29), Peptide #1-30 (SEQ ID NO:32), Peptide #1-31 (SEQ ID NO:33), Peptide #1-32 (SEQ ID NO:34), Peptide #1-33 (SEQ ID NO:35), and Peptide #1-34 (SEQ ID NO:36) shown in Fig. 4, or a part of said amino acid sequence.~~